

RECOGNIZING WINIFRED "WINN"
BUNDY

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winifred "Winn" Bundy, who has been named a 2009 Arizona Culturekeeper for her commitment and dedication to upholding the traditions, rituals and culture of my State.

For thirty-five years, Winn has operated the Singing Wind Bookshop near Benson, Arizona. Time magazine called Singing Wind "one of the warmest bookshops on Earth" and a national travel writer said it was "the most unique book-buying experience of my life."

Winn did not start out planning to run a book store. In 1956, she earned a degree in history and English from the University of Arizona. That year she and her husband bought the Singing Wind, a working cattle ranch.

Winn's love of literature led her to start selling books from the living room of her ranch home. Winn soon developed a reputation for featuring a rich selection of regional authors and topics that draw readers from around the world. Since then, Winn's ranch house has become a must-visit destination for lovers of Southwestern literature who come from far and wide by car and tour bus. Winn now has 150,000 titles in stock on everything from Indian rock art to ghost towns to the Jewish Western experience.

Since 1974, Winn has helped hundreds of Southwestern writers get their start. She specializes in small press books that do not appear in big chain stores and connects authors with publishers to get their works in print.

Winn also cultivates the love of literature and the humanities through the many community activities she sponsors. From its inception, Singing Wind has offered a bookmobile, school programs, book discussions, author readings and writers' festivals.

Earlier this year, Winn received the Juliana Yoder Friend of the Humanities Award from the Arizona Humanities Council. On December 20, 2009 she will be named an Arizona Culturekeeper, an award presented by the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, in conjunction with the Sharlot Hall Museum, the Arizona Historical Society and Marshall Trimble, Arizona's official state historian.

I am proud of the work that Winn has done to preserve Arizona's culture and to bring literature to a wide audience. She is truly a deserving recipient of the Culturekeeper Award and I join with the award committee in commending her for all that she has done for the people of Arizona and for readers across the country and around the world.

VFW POST 2055 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2055 in Centralia, Illinois, as they celebrate their 75th anniversary on December 18.

Post 2055 began in a renovated church in 1934 and was followed a year later by the chartering of the local VFW Ladies Auxiliary. The post has grown from its original membership of 56 to a high of more than 600 members.

The men and women of the Centralia VFW post have continued to serve their community and our nation long after their terms of active duty military service have ended. Post 2055 members assemble and send care packages to service men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Members of VFW Post 2055 are dedicated to serving their community. They regularly volunteer at the local Veterans Administration hospital, teach firearms safety courses and participate in cancer research fundraisers.

I would like to thank the men and women of VFW Post 2055 in Centralia, Illinois, for their service to our nation, their continued support of America's soldiers and their dedication to their community.

TO COMMEMORATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS OF NUMONYX

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, tomorrow in my district—in Folsom, California—Numonyx will establish its North American headquarters. Numonyx is a leading semiconductor technology firm that specializes in memory products.

Approximately 450 members of the Numonyx global workforce will be located in nearly 100,000 square feet of building space on its new campus. The campus will house product research and development, business management, testing labs, validation labs, sales, marketing, and more.

Folsom was chosen as the new home for Numonyx due to its business-friendly environment, highly skilled and educated workforce as well as being a family-oriented community. Numonyx will play an important role in the ongoing growth of the workforce, economy and technical skill within the greater Sacramento region.

Beyond the obvious business, employment, and economic benefits, Numonyx's impact reaches the community at large with "Numonyx in Your Neighborhood" campaigns. These campaigns assist in meeting the needs of individuals and charitable organizations within the Sacramento region.

I am pleased that this leading-edge and high impact company has chosen California's 3rd district as its home.

THE TALKING WATER GARDENS PROJECT IN OREGON IS AN EXCELLENT USE OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an example of Recovery

Act funds that have been invested wisely. The "Talking Water Gardens" is a high-priority wastewater treatment project in Albany and Millersburg, Oregon that received Recovery Act funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. Those funds will be used to construct 39 acres of treatment wetlands and reuse the treated water to improve riparian habitat. Unfortunately, a report by two members of the Senate entitled, "Stimulus Checkup: A closer look at 100 projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," inaccurately and unfairly criticized this project. Had the two Senators who authored the report called these two Oregon cities to inquire about the project they would have learned that the Talking Water Gardens is a shining example of how Recovery Act funds can be used to improve our aging infrastructure, mitigate environmental damage, and create good-paying jobs. The project also illustrates how a successful public-private partnership can work. I respectfully submit this letter from the City of Albany, which further explains the inaccuracies in the "Stimulus Checkup" report on this important project.

CITY OF ALBANY,

Albany, OR, December 14, 2009.

Hon. PETER DeFAZIO,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN DeFAZIO: On December 10, 2009, we learned that Senator John McCain and Senator Tom Coburn named "Talking Water Gardens," our wastewater treatment and water reuse project, in a report that questions the validity of 100 projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This project is an important, necessary, and high-priority wastewater treatment project for the State of Oregon that received funding through the State Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund program. This project provides sustainable benefits for the community, the economy, and the environment. We offer this letter in rebuttal to the "Stimulus Checkup" report dated December 2009.

No one from Senator McCain or Senator Coburn's offices have ever contacted the City of Albany or the City of Millersburg regarding the project. The information sources referenced in the report were never verified with us for accuracy. It appears that our project was singled out simply because of the whimsical name, "Talking Water Gardens." The project will construct roughly 39 acres of treatment wetlands and reuse the water to improve the riparian habitat on land that is the blighted site of two defunct lumber mills adjacent to the old oxbow of the Willamette River. This land has significant elevation differences, so the treated wastewater from the Albany-Millersburg Water Reclamation Facility and the ATI Wah Chang treatment facility will enter the project at elevations above the wetlands, creating several waterfalls that will aerate the water. Waterfalls are often referred to as "talking waters" and the name was chosen with children and the Native American Kalapuya/Willamette River heritage in mind.

The conclusions of the McCain-Coburn report are inaccurate and misleading:

(1) The report states that a non-competitive contract was issued for the construction. This is false. In accordance with the Oregon Revised Statutes, the cities employed a construction manager/general contractor (CM/GC) procurement method that is allowed and, in fact, encouraged by the State to lower public project costs. The process followed a Request for Proposal and interview process that included evaluation of both cost